

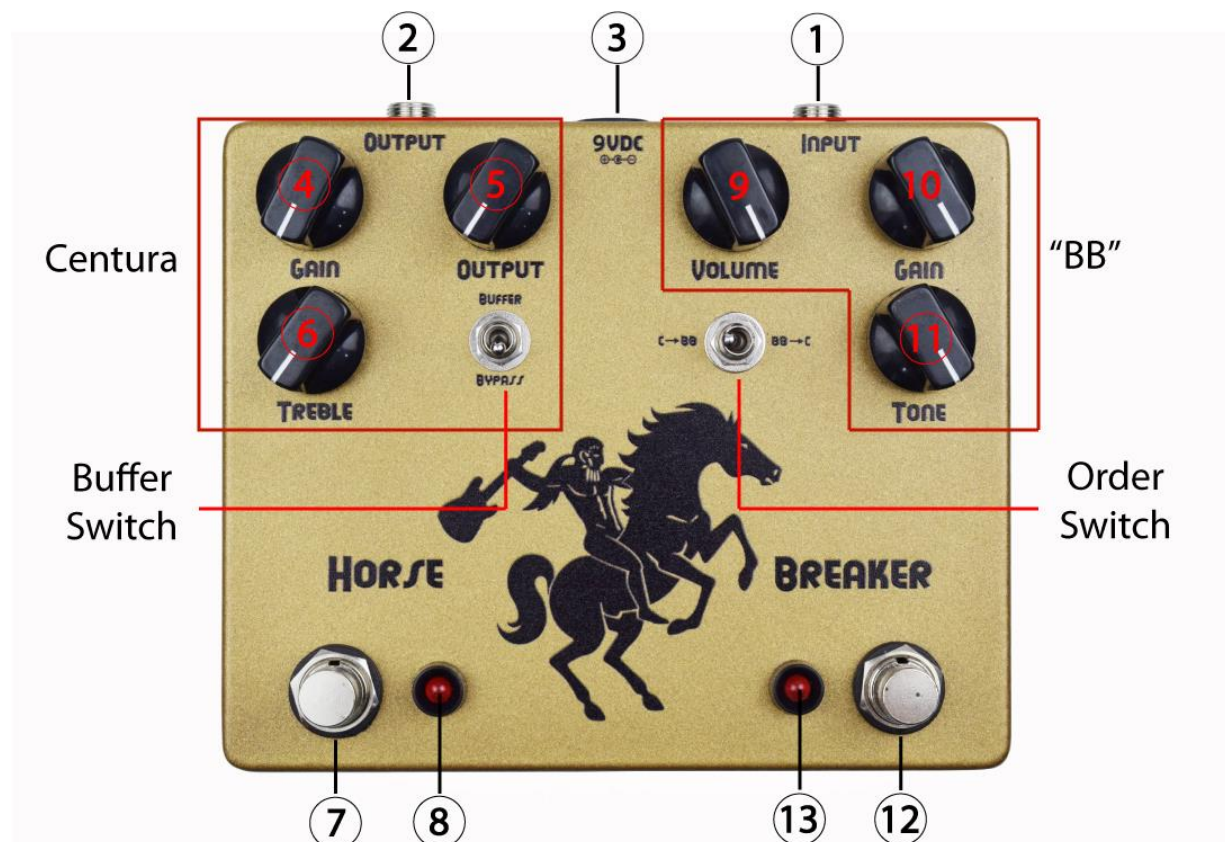
OVERVIEW

The Ceriatone Horse Breaker is a 2-in-1 Overdrive Pedal, consisting of our Ceriatone Centura overdrive on the left and the “BB” overdrive on the right. As is the case with all our products, we have paid excruciating attention to each circuit. Both are 100% accurate down to part composition, and even manufacture where important. We have gone so far as to reverse personal vintage samples of each, measure, and compare exhaustively. We’re confident you’ll agree that it is worth the effort.

Having two accurate, sought-after circuits in one pedal would be neat enough, but we didn’t stop there. Obviously, each pedal can be played individually, or can be stacked together. We also added two important toggle controls to home in on your tones and sit properly in your greater rig.

First, the **Buffer switch** pedal also allows for the buffer in the Centura circuit to be turned on/off. When up, the buffer is active. When down, the buffer is defeated and puts the Centura in true-bypass operation.

Next, the **“Order” switch** allows for setting which OD comes first, allowing for tonal shaping. Toggle left (C→BB) places the Centura first in the signal path and runs into the BB. Toggle right (BB→C) places the BB first, running into the Centura.





CONNECTIONS AND CONTROLS

- 1) Input Jack** (*Please use quality ¼" instrument cables and jacks*)
This is where you insert the input signal into the pedal (from guitar or other pedals)
- 2) Output Jack** (*Please use quality ¼" instrument cables and jacks*)
This is the output of the pedal, and it goes to your amplifier, or other pedals/devices
- 3) DC Power Jack**
Use industry standard 2.1mm barrel plug, with a power supply of 9VDC, tip negative.
- 4) Centura Gain**
Controls the amount of gain for the Centura OD. Clockwise increases clipping.
- 5) Centura Output**
Controls the output, or volume for the Centura OD. Clockwise increases volume.
- 6) Centura Treble**
Controls the treble/highs for the Centura OD. Clockwise increases treble content.
- 7) Centura Footswitch**
Turns the Centura OD on/off, indicated by the Centura LED indicator
- 8) Centura LED indicator**
Indicates whether the Centura OD is on, when lighted.
- 9) "BB" Volume**
Controls the amount of output, or volume, for the BB. Clockwise increase volume.
- 10) "BB" Gain**
Controls the amount of gain for the BB. Clockwise increases clipping.
- 11) "BB" Tone**
Controls the treble/highs of the BB. Clockwise increases treble content.
- 12) "BB" Footswitch**
Turns the BB OD on/off, indicated by the "BB" LED indicator
- 13) "BB" LED indicator**
Indicates whether the BB OD is on, when lighted.



Powering the Horse Breaker

Voltage: 9V DC, Tip Negative

Connector: 2.1mm barrel plug

***Important:** The Horse Breaker must be used with the above power requirements. Failing to do so will damage the power supply circuitry inside the pedal, and voids warranty.

Alternatively, a 9V battery can be used. The battery compartment is inside the enclosure. To open, use a screw driver to undo the 4 screws on the bottom cover.

Setting the Centura

The Centura is a transparent OD that can do wonders to your tones, whether set as a clean boost effect, or as a true overdrive to goose up your sounds.

It is best used with a tube amp that is turned up a bit, i.e. at the level that it provides a “good” sound tubes are renowned for.

Clean Boost Settings:

Gain: Min – 9 o’clock

Treble: 10-12 o’clock

Output: 10:30-12:30 o’clock

Of course, you can vary the settings as you see fit, and to suit your other gear/system. For more distortion, increase “Gain” gradually, and fine tune your using Treble, as well as Output.

Centura Buffer

The Centura OD circuit is a buffered bypass pedal. This means when the effect is switched off, the buffer is still in the signal chain, and affects the tone (positively, or vice versa, is dependent on your gear, and preferences).

The Buffer switch on the Horse Breaker allows you to turn off the buffer, thus making the pedal true bypass.

There may be tonal difference between buffer on/off, set it to your preference.



Setting the “BB” OD

The “BB” OD circuit was originally designed to give the sounds of an early ‘60s KT66-equipped 2x12 combo amplifier. Whether it may or may not be successful in that right, there’s no denying it’s success and use as a pedal in and of itself. Interestingly, this circuit was popularized by a certain well-known modern guitar hero.

IMPORTANT – as with the original, the pedal is quite low in both volume output and in available gain. When compared to some other OD pedals, Centura included, it may seem a bit gentle until high control settings. That is per original!

This circuit also works best with a tube amp that is set a bit louder and/or on the verge of clipping. Used as a clean boost, the “BB” does add more complexity and harmonics to the tones.

“BB” clean boost settings:

Volume: 1-2 o’clock

Gain: 11-1 o’clock

Tone: 11-2:30 o’clock

This setting might differ, depending on your gear. Do play around with the Volume and Gain controls.

For more boost, adjust either Volume or Tone very gradually higher, to your liking.

“BB” guitar hero settings:

Volume: 3-4 o’clock

Gain: 2:30-3:00 o’clock

Tone: 2:30-3:00 o’clock

These settings were taken from a 2010 video. Best results might differ, depending on your gear. We do feel this is a good starting point, however, play around with all controls!



Stacking the Centura and “BB” circuits

One of the more fun things about the Horse Breaker is combining both overdrives for additional musical and highly usable tones. Because either order provides useful tones, we provided the Order switch (review page 1 for details). Such flexibility might be overwhelming for some players, so here are a few things to keep in mind

Both circuits are known for their ability to be “always on” pedals. In other words, many fans of these circuits like to use them “on” at all times. If you like one of these circuits for that purpose, we recommend having that overdrive SECOND in order. Then, when the other circuit is engaged, it is then used to overdrive that core sound.

Next, a little time with the unit will prove just how different the potential output levels of each circuit are. The Centura is capable of VASTLY more signal boost than the BB. If you are using this nature of the Centura (high signal output), we recommend running the Centura second so as not to decrease the signal output.

Tonally, each circuit has its own sonic characteristic. The Centura is very fat and thick in the low mids, and it’s clipping tends to be very thick (we feel this *particularly* compliments single-coil pickups). The BB is also quite fat, but has more of an upper midrange zing, and clipping tends to have more of a percussive tactile feel. Note that the pedal second in order will have more of a pronounced sonic signature when both are used together.

In our testing, we noted an interesting trend that may also provide useful. Rhythm players tended to favor C→BB. Single note and lead players tended to favor BB→C.

There are no steadfast rules. Most importantly, trust your ears. If it sounds good, it *is* good!

We hope you enjoy the Horse Breaker pedal, and that it brings you new heights to your musical endeavors! Thank You!

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